

[54] **PANEL AND STILE CONSTRUCTION**

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[58] Field of Search.....**52/620.36, 627, 584, 481, 29, 52/584, 620, 627, 481, 585, 239; 160/135, 351**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

An extruded stile is shaped as a shallow channel within which is a relatively deep channel. The narrow outer walls are rigid and at right angles to the web, and the wider inner walls normally flare outwardly and exhibit spring action when forced inwardly to parallel relation. The outer portions of the inner walls are outwardly offset from their inner portions, and their edges terminate in inwardly turned lips. The edges of decorative face sheets of hollow core panels are captured between the outer and inner walls, with the offset portions of the inner walls forced to parallel relation and thereby outwardly biasing the sheets. Within its inner walls, the stile matingly receives a rod or tubing that is integral with stands or casters, and also splines for supporting panels end to end. The space between confronting outer and inner walls is also adapted to nestably receive an extrusion with a slotted wall to support shelving. Interlocking the stile and face sheets is effected by bonding the offset portions of the inner walls to the face sheets, by locking elongated bars at their ends to the lips of the inner edges of opposite sides of the panel, or by nailing or screwing the web to an interior frame or block. On its outer surface the web is provided with parallel grooves to receive seal strips, and the web forms a support surface for a decorative face strip.

**5 Claims, 12 Drawing Figures**

